

**MINUTES OF THE ALABAMA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
THE STATE OF ALABAMA
OCTOBER 12, 2023
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA**

The Alabama State Board of Education met for its regular meeting of Elementary/Secondary Education matters on Thursday, October 12, 2023, at 10 a.m., in the auditorium of the Gordon Persons Building, Montgomery, Alabama. The meeting was called to order by the President of the Board in accordance with *Alabama Code* (1975), §16-3-7, as amended.

PRESIDING: GOVERNOR KAY IVEY, PRESIDENT

The invocation was done by Father Morgan Clark, Associate Rector, Christ Church Anglican, Montgomery, Alabama, and the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag was done in unison.

The following members were present:

Present

Mrs. Stephanie Bell in person
Dr. Tonya Chestnut in person
Governor Kay Ivey in person
Mrs. Marie Manning in person
Mrs. Belinda McRae in person
Dr. Wayne Reynolds in person
Dr. Yvette Richardson in person
Mrs. Tracie West in person
Mrs. Jackie Zeigler in person

Dr. Eric G. Mackey, State Superintendent of Education, was also present.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

On motion by Mrs. Stephanie Bell and seconded by Mrs. Tracie West, the Board voted unanimously to approve the agenda.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE SEPTEMBER 14, 2023, MEETING

On motion by Mrs. Stephanie Bell and seconded by Mrs. Marie Manning, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes for the meeting of September 14, 2023.

On motion by Mrs. Tracie West and seconded by Mrs. Stephanie Bell, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following:

RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF MR. DANIEL BARRENTINE, PRINCIPAL, GEORGE W. LONG HIGH SCHOOL, DALE COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM, AS ALABAMA'S 2023 HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR

WHEREAS, Mr. Daniel Barrentine, principal of George W. Long High School in the Dale County School System, was selected as Alabama's 2023 High School Principal of the Year by the Alabama Association of Secondary School Principals for consideration as the National Principal of the Year; and

WHEREAS, the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP) sponsors the National Principal of the Year Program to recognize outstanding middle-level and high school principals who have succeeded in providing high-quality learning opportunities for students as well as demonstrating exemplary contributions to the profession; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Daniel Barrentine has 16 years of experience in education, including 10 years of administrative experience; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Daniel Barrentine holds an Ed.S. in Instructional Leadership and Administration from Troy University and a Master of Arts in Social Science Education from the University of Alabama; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Daniel Barrentine has been a member of the Council for Leaders in Alabama Schools since 2013 and a member of the Alabama Association of Secondary School Principals since 2013; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Daniel Barrentine has contributed to the success of George W. Long High School by creating a team of teachers, staff members, students, and community members who have developed and promoted an environment of high expectations resulting in academic and social growth for students; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Daniel Barrentine has implemented an advisory block at George W. Long High School that focuses on ACT preparation for all students in Grades 9-11, providing meaningful and targeted instruction to each student, enhancing teachers' knowledge of the exam and test-taking strategies, and holding class meetings and conducting PATH lessons for students; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Daniel Barrentine, with an unwavering commitment to excellence in the rewarding field of education, reflects immense credit upon the entire state of Alabama, and is truly deserving of special commendation and praise:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby commend and congratulate Mr. Daniel Barrentine upon the honor of being selected as Alabama's 2023 High School Principal of the Year.

Done this 12th day of October 2023

On motion by Mrs. Tracie West and seconded by Mrs. Stephanie Bell, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following:

**RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF MS. MALLORY KINCAID,
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL, AUBURN JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL,
AUBURN CITY SCHOOL SYSTEM,
AS ALABAMA'S 2023 ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR**

WHEREAS, Ms. Mallory Kincaid, assistant principal of Auburn Junior High School in the Auburn City School System, was selected as Alabama's 2023 Assistant Principal of the Year by the Alabama Association of Secondary School Principals for consideration as the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP) National Assistant Principal of the Year, and is currently serving as principal of R.E. Thompson Intermediate School in the Tusculum City School System; and

WHEREAS, the NASSP sponsors the NASSP Assistant Principal of the Year Program to recognize outstanding middle-level and high school assistant principals who have succeeded in providing high quality learning opportunities for students; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Mallory Kincaid has 16 years of experience in education as a classroom teacher, AMSTI Regional Specialist, instructional coach, assistant principal, and has shown a deep commitment to education throughout her career, earning a Bachelor of Science in Biology and Secondary Education, a Master of Science Education in Biology and Secondary Education, an Instructional Leadership Certification, and an Ed.S. in Teacher Leadership, all from the University of North Alabama; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Mallory Kincaid has demonstrated exemplary leadership skills in her role as an assistant principal, building a positive school culture and climate at Auburn Junior High School, focusing on building relationships with all stakeholders and working tirelessly to ensure teachers feel supported and appreciated in a collaborative learning community that benefits students and parents; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Mallory Kincaid has organized and facilitated several successful programs and events at Auburn Junior High School, including meaningful stakeholder involvement in the strategic planning process, resulting in a well-thought-out and intentional plan to push the school forward in teaching and learning, diversity, innovation/technology, and relationship-building; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Mallory Kincaid launched Pineapple Day at Auburn Junior High School, offering job-embedded professional learning through teacher observation and feedback that has fostered a collaborative professional learning culture and enhanced teacher efficacy and morale; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Mallory Kincaid, with an unwavering commitment to excellence in the rewarding field of education, reflects immense credit upon the entire state of Alabama, and is truly deserving of special commendation and praise:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby commend and congratulate Ms. Mallory Kincaid upon the honor of being selected as Alabama's 2023 Assistant Principal of the Year.

Done this 12th day of October 2023

On motion by Mrs. Belinda McRae and seconded by Mrs. Stephanie Bell, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following:

**RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF MR. TONY BONDS, PRINCIPAL,
RUSSELLVILLE MIDDLE SCHOOL, RUSSELLVILLE CITY SCHOOL SYSTEM,
AS ALABAMA'S 2023 MIDDLE SCHOOL PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR**

WHEREAS, Mr. Tony Bonds, principal of Russellville Middle School in the Russellville City School System, was selected as Alabama's 2023 Middle School Principal of the Year by the Alabama Association of Secondary School Principals; and

WHEREAS, the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP) sponsors the National Principal of the Year Program to recognize outstanding middle-level and high school principals who have succeeded in providing high-quality learning opportunities for students as well as demonstrating exemplary contributions to the profession; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Tony Bonds has demonstrated excellence in education, having earned a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Mississippi in 2005, a Master of Arts in Education from Bethel University in 2014, and is currently working toward his doctorate in Educational Leadership at Liberty University; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Tony Bonds has 13 years of experience in education, including five years of administrative experience; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Tony Bonds has been an active member of the Alabama Association of Middle School Principals and the Alabama Leadership Initiative, as well as serving as a board member for North Alabama Easter Seals; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Tony Bonds has made significant contributions to his school, including adapting the school schedule to accommodate English Language (EL) students, resulting in a 20% increase in students meeting their ACCESS target scores over two years; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Tony Bonds has improved the culture of Russellville Middle School, resulting in increased retention rates of faculty and staff, and developed collaborative teaching approaches across grade levels and content areas; and has placed emphasis on staff and student morale, implementing brag boxes to celebrate teachers' successes and scheduling activities such as community movie nights and service projects; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Tony Bonds, with an unwavering commitment to excellence in the rewarding field of education reflects immense credit upon the entire state of Alabama, and is truly deserving of special commendation and praise:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby commend and congratulate Mr. Tony Bonds upon the honor of being selected as Alabama's 2023 Middle School Principal of the Year.

Done this 12th day of October 2023

On motion by Mrs. Belinda McRae and seconded by Mrs. Tracie West, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following:

**RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF MRS. KARISSA E. LANG, PRINCIPAL, CRESTLINE
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, HARTSELLE CITY SCHOOL SYSTEM,
AS ALABAMA'S 2023 NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
PRINCIPALS NATIONAL DISTINGUISHED PRINCIPAL**

WHEREAS, the National Association of Elementary School Principals (NAESP) sponsors the National Distinguished Principal Program to honor outstanding elementary and middle-level principals who ensure that America's children acquire a sound foundation for lifelong learning and

achievement, and who have set high standards for instruction, student achievement, character, and school climate in their schools; and

WHEREAS, elementary and middle-level principals are nominated for this achievement by peers in their state and final selections are made by committees appointed by the Alabama Association of Elementary School Administrators; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Karissa E. Lang, principal of Crestline Elementary School in the Hartselle City School System, was selected as Alabama's 2023 NAESP National Distinguished Principal by the Alabama Association of Elementary School Administrators; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Karissa E. Lang has demonstrated excellence in education, having earned a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education from Auburn University, a Master in Elementary Education from the University of Alabama at Birmingham, a master's in educational leadership from Jacksonville State University, an Ed.S. in Educational Leadership from the University of Alabama at Birmingham, and National Board Certification as a Middle Generalist; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Karissa E. Lang has dedicated her career to education, serving as a teacher, assistant principal, and principal over the past two decades; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Karissa E. Lang has been recognized for her leadership and commitment to education, receiving numerous awards and honors; and has a strong commitment to serving her community, holding leadership positions in several community organizations, including the Hartselle City Center Board and the Decatur/Morgan County Chamber of Commerce; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Karissa E. Lang as principal of Crestline Elementary School has made significant strides in improving the school's culture, test scores, student discipline, and parent and community involvement; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Karissa E. Lang has worked tirelessly to create an inclusive and supportive environment for all students, including spearheading fundraising efforts for a new SNAP playground and implementing an Environmental Sciences Program that provides students with hands-on learning experiences; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Karissa E. Lang, with an unwavering commitment to excellence in the rewarding field of education reflects immense credit upon the entire State of Alabama, and is truly deserving of special commendation and praise:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby commend and congratulate Mrs. Karissa E. Lang upon the honor of being selected as Alabama's 2023 NAESP National Distinguished Principal.

Done this 12th day of October 2023

On motion by Mrs. Tracie West and seconded by Mrs. Belinda McRae, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following:

**RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF MS. MELANIE A. HARRIS, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL,
HIBBETT INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL, FLORENCE CITY SCHOOL SYSTEM
AS ALABAMA'S 2023 NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
PRINCIPALS NATIONAL OUTSTANDING ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL**

WHEREAS, the National Association of Elementary School Principals (NAESP) sponsors the NAESP National Outstanding Assistant Principal Program to promote excellence in educational leadership and call attention to the fundamental importance of the assistant principal by honoring assistant principals who make stellar contributions to their leadership team, and who have set high standards for instruction, student achievement, character, and school climate; and

WHEREAS, assistant principals are nominated for this achievement by peers in their state and final selections are made by committees appointed by the Alabama Association of Elementary School Administrators; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Melanie A. Harris, assistant principal of Hibbett Intermediate School in the Florence City School System, was selected as Alabama's 2023 NAESP National Outstanding

Assistant Principal by the Alabama Association of Elementary School Administrators, and is currently serving as principal of East Elementary School in the Cullman City School System; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Melanie A. Harris has dedicated her career to education, serving as a teacher, instructional partner, assistant principal, and now principal; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Melanie A. Harris has achieved significant accomplishments during her tenure at Hibbett Intermediate School, including the re-establishment of the Parent-Teacher Organization (PTO), leading to increased parent engagement and support for student as well as the creation of the Hibbett Hub, a comprehensive resource for administrators, staff, and students that has improved communication and consistency at the school; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Melanie A. Harris has demonstrated a commitment to ongoing professional learning, earning a doctorate in Educational Leadership from the University of Alabama, an Ed.S. in Instructional Leadership from the University of North Alabama, as well as a master's and bachelor's degree from the University of North Alabama; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Melanie A. Harris, with an unwavering commitment to excellence in the rewarding field of education, reflects immense credit upon the entire state of Alabama, and is truly deserving of special commendation and praise:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby commend and congratulate Ms. Melanie A. Harris upon the honor of being selected as Alabama's 2023 NAESP National Outstanding Assistant Principal.

Done this 12th day of October 2023

On motion by Dr. Yvette Richardson and seconded by Mrs. Stephanie Bell, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following:

**RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING OCTOBER 2023 AS
"PRINCIPALS MONTH" IN ALABAMA**

WHEREAS, the Alabama Association of Elementary School Administrators, the Alabama Association of Middle School Principals, and the Alabama Association of Secondary School Principals have declared the month of October 2023 as "National Principals Month" in coordination with the efforts of the National Association of Elementary School Principals, and the National Association of Secondary School Principals that are working with the U.S. Congress to designate "National Principals Month" and resolutions thereof; and

WHEREAS, the vision, dedication, and determination of a principal provides the mobilizing force behind any school reform effort; and

WHEREAS, principals are expected to be educational visionaries, instructional leaders, assessment experts, disciplinarians, community builders, public relations experts, budget analysts, facility managers, special programs administrators, and guardians of various legal contractual, policy mandates and initiatives, as well as being entrusted with our young people, our most valuable resource; and

WHEREAS, principals set the academic tone for their schools and work collaboratively with teachers to develop and maintain high curriculum standards, develop mission statements, and set performance goals and objectives for schools to achieve educational excellence; and

WHEREAS, principals work tirelessly in communities across Alabama to maintain academic accountability, to ensure a safe and productive learning environment, and to encourage and facilitate teachers and parents' efforts to make a positive difference in the lives of our young people; and

WHEREAS, in celebration of "National Principals Month," the state of Alabama honors elementary, middle level, and high school principals and recognizes the importance of school leadership in ensuring that every child has access to a high-quality education; and

WHEREAS, the state of Alabama recognizes outstanding elementary, middle level, and high school principals who have succeeded in providing high-quality learning opportunities for students as well as their exemplary contributions to the profession; and

WHEREAS, to honor and recognize the contribution of all school principals and assistant principals, at all grade levels, to the success of students in Alabama’s elementary, middle, and high schools and to encourage residents of Alabama to observe “Principals Month” with appropriate ceremonies and activities that promote awareness of school leadership in ensuring that every child has access to a high-quality education:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby proclaim October 2023 as “Principals Month” in the state of Alabama.

Done this 12th day of October 2023

On motion by Mrs. Jackie Zeigler and seconded by Mrs. Stephanie Bell, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following:

**RESOLUTION OF DISTINGUISHED RECOGNITION
2022 ALABAMA SCHOOL COUNSELING PROGRAM OF DISTINCTION
KIMBERLY WINDHAM AND DIANNA WOLCHINA, SCHOOL COUNSELORS
BALDWIN COUNTY VIRTUAL SCHOOL, BALDWIN COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM**

WHEREAS, the Alabama School Counseling Program of Distinction recognizes school counseling programs that demonstrate an exemplary level of implementation of a comprehensive, data-driven school counseling program; and

WHEREAS, the program components align with the Comprehensive Counseling and Guidance Model for Alabama Public Schools and the American School Counselor Association National Model; and

WHEREAS, comprehensive developmental school counseling programs are considered an integral part of the educational process that enables all students to achieve success in school; and

WHEREAS, the Alabama School Counselor Association recognizes Baldwin County Virtual School, Baldwin County School System, as a 2022 Alabama School Counseling Program of Distinction; and

WHEREAS, the American School Counselor Association (ASCA) recognizes Baldwin County Virtual School, Baldwin County School System, as a 2022 Recognized ASCA Model Program (RAMP):

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby commend Kimberly Windham and Dianna Wolchina, the school counselors of Baldwin County Virtual School in the Baldwin County School System, on achieving the status of an Alabama School Counseling Program of Distinction in 2022.

Done this 12th day of October 2023

On motion by Mrs. Jackie Zeigler and seconded by Mrs. Tracie West, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following:

**RESOLUTION OF DISTINGUISHED RECOGNITION
2022 ALABAMA SCHOOL COUNSELING PROGRAM OF DISTINCTION
KIMBERLY POWELL AND NATALIE WARD, SCHOOL COUNSELORS
BELFOREST ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, BALDWIN COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM**

WHEREAS, the Alabama School Counseling Program of Distinction recognizes school counseling programs that demonstrate an exemplary level of implementation of a comprehensive, data-driven school counseling program; and

WHEREAS, the program components align with the Comprehensive Counseling and Guidance Model for Alabama Public Schools and the American School Counselor Association National Model; and

WHEREAS, comprehensive developmental school counseling programs are considered an integral part of the educational process that enables all students to achieve success in school; and

WHEREAS, the Alabama School Counselor Association recognizes Belforest Elementary School, Baldwin County School System, as a 2022 Alabama School Counseling Program of Distinction; and

WHEREAS, the American School Counselor Association (ASCA) recognizes Belforest Elementary School, Baldwin County School System, as a 2022 Recognized ASCA Model Program (RAMP):

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby commend Kimberly Powell and Natalie Ward, the school counselors of Belforest Elementary School in the Baldwin County School System, on achieving the status of an Alabama School Counseling Program of Distinction in 2022.

Done this 12th day of October 2023

On motion by Dr. Tonya Chestnut and seconded by Mrs. Tracie West, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following:

**RESOLUTION OF DISTINGUISHED RECOGNITION
2022 ALABAMA SCHOOL COUNSELING PROGRAM OF DISTINCTION
KELLY CHISM, SCHOOL COUNSELOR
ROBBINS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, MOBILE COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM**

WHEREAS, the Alabama School Counseling Program of Distinction recognizes school counseling programs that demonstrate an exemplary level of implementation of a comprehensive, data-driven school counseling program; and

WHEREAS, the program components align with the Comprehensive Counseling and Guidance Model for Alabama Public Schools and the American School Counselor Association National Model; and

WHEREAS, comprehensive developmental school counseling programs are considered an integral part of the educational process that enables all students to achieve success in school; and

WHEREAS, the Alabama School Counselor Association recognizes Robbins Elementary School, Mobile County School System, as a 2022 Alabama School Counseling Program of Distinction; and

WHEREAS, the American School Counselor Association (ASCA) recognizes Robbins Elementary School, Mobile County School System, as a 2022 Recognized ASCA Model Program (RAMP):

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby commend Kelly Chism, the school counselor of Robbins Elementary School in the Mobile County School System, on achieving the status of an Alabama School Counseling Program of Distinction in 2022.

Done this 12th day of October 2023

On motion by Mrs. Marie Manning and seconded by Mrs. Belinda McRae, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following:

**RESOLUTION OF DISTINGUISHED RECOGNITION
2022 ALABAMA SCHOOL COUNSELING PROGRAM OF DISTINCTION
LAURA RANKHORN, SCHOOL COUNSELOR
ARAB ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, ARAB CITY SCHOOL SYSTEM**

WHEREAS, the Alabama School Counseling Program of Distinction recognizes school counseling programs that demonstrate an exemplary level of implementation of a comprehensive, data-driven school counseling program; and

WHEREAS, the program components align with the Comprehensive Counseling and Guidance Model for Alabama Public Schools and the American School Counselor Association National Model; and

WHEREAS, comprehensive developmental school counseling programs are considered an integral part of the educational process that enables all students to achieve success in school; and

WHEREAS, the Alabama School Counselor Association recognizes Arab Elementary School, Arab City School System, as a 2022 Alabama School Counseling Program of Distinction; and

WHEREAS, the American School Counselor Association (ASCA) recognizes Arab Elementary School, Arab City School System, as a 2022 Recognized ASCA Model Program (RAMP):

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby commend Laura Rankhorn, the school counselor of Arab Elementary School in the Arab City School System, on achieving the status of an Alabama School Counseling Program of Distinction in 2022.

Done this 12th day of October 2023

On motion by Mrs. Marie Manning and seconded by Mrs. Tracie West, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following:

**RESOLUTION OF DISTINGUISHED RECOGNITION
2022 ALABAMA SCHOOL COUNSELING PROGRAM OF DISTINCTION
CALLEY KUTNER, SCHOOL COUNSELOR
GUNTERSVILLE MIDDLE SCHOOL, GUNTERSVILLE CITY SCHOOL SYSTEM**

WHEREAS, the Alabama School Counseling Program of Distinction recognizes school counseling programs that demonstrate an exemplary level of implementation of a comprehensive, data-driven school counseling program; and

WHEREAS, the program components align with the Comprehensive Counseling and Guidance Model for Alabama Public Schools and the American School Counselor Association National Model; and

WHEREAS, comprehensive developmental school counseling programs are considered an integral part of the educational process that enables all students to achieve success in school; and

WHEREAS, the Alabama School Counselor Association recognizes Guntersville Middle School, Guntersville City School System, as a 2022 Alabama School Counseling Program of Distinction; and

WHEREAS, the American School Counselor Association (ASCA) recognizes Guntersville Middle School, Guntersville City School System, as a 2022 Recognized ASCA Model Program (RAMP) School of Distinction:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby commend Calley Kutner, the school counselor of Guntersville Middle School in the Guntersville City School System, on achieving the status of an Alabama School Counseling Program of Distinction in 2022.

Done this 12th day of October 2023

On motion by Mrs. Marie Manning and seconded by Mrs. Stephanie Bell, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following:

**RESOLUTION OF DISTINGUISHED RECOGNITION
2022 ALABAMA SCHOOL COUNSELING PROGRAM OF DISTINCTION
KIM CRUMBLY, SCHOOL COUNSELOR
PARKSIDE SCHOOL, CULLMAN COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM**

WHEREAS, the Alabama School Counseling Program of Distinction recognizes school counseling programs that demonstrate an exemplary level of implementation of a comprehensive, data-driven school counseling program; and

WHEREAS, the program components align with the Comprehensive Counseling and Guidance Model for Alabama Public Schools and the American School Counselor Association National Model; and

WHEREAS, comprehensive developmental school counseling programs are considered an integral part of the educational process that enables all students to achieve success in school; and

WHEREAS, the Alabama School Counselor Association recognizes Parkside School, Cullman County School System, as a 2022 Alabama School Counseling Program of Distinction; and

WHEREAS, the American School Counselor Association (ASCA) recognizes Parkside School, Cullman County School System, as a 2022 Recognized ASCA Model Program (RAMP):

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby commend Kim Crumbley, the school counselor of Parkside School in the Cullman County School System, on achieving the status of an Alabama School Counseling Program of Distinction in 2022.

Done this 12th day of October 2023

On motion by Mrs. Belinda McRae and seconded by Mrs. Stephanie Bell, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following:

**RESOLUTION OF DISTINGUISHED RECOGNITION
2022 ALABAMA SCHOOL COUNSELING PROGRAM OF DISTINCTION
ANGELA CHANDLER, SCHOOL COUNSELOR
ROCK QUARRY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, TUSCALOOSA CITY SCHOOL SYSTEM**

WHEREAS, the Alabama School Counseling Program of Distinction recognizes school counseling programs that demonstrate an exemplary level of implementation of a comprehensive, data-driven school counseling program; and

WHEREAS, the program components align with the Comprehensive Counseling and Guidance Model for Alabama Public Schools and the American School Counselor Association National Model; and

WHEREAS, comprehensive developmental school counseling programs are considered an integral part of the educational process that enables all students to achieve success in school; and

WHEREAS, the Alabama School Counselor Association recognizes Rock Quarry Elementary School, Tuscaloosa City School System, as a 2022 Alabama School Counseling Program of Distinction; and

WHEREAS, the American School Counselor Association (ASCA) recognizes Rock Quarry Elementary School, Tuscaloosa City School System, as a 2022 Recognized ASCA Model Program (RAMP):

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby commend Angela Chandler, the school counselor of Rock Quarry Elementary School in the Tuscaloosa City School System, on achieving the status of an Alabama School Counseling Program of Distinction in 2022.

Done this 12th day of October 2023

On motion by Dr. Wayne Reynolds and seconded by Mrs. Stephanie Bell, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following:

**RESOLUTION OF DISTINGUISHED RECOGNITION
2022 ALABAMA SCHOOL COUNSELING PROGRAM OF DISTINCTION
SARAH SPEAR, SCHOOL COUNSELOR
HUNTSVILLE JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL, HUNTSVILLE CITY SCHOOL SYSTEM**

WHEREAS, the Alabama School Counseling Program of Distinction recognizes school counseling programs that demonstrate an exemplary level of implementation of a comprehensive, data-driven school counseling program; and

WHEREAS, the program components align with the Comprehensive Counseling and Guidance Model for Alabama Public Schools and the American School Counselor Association National Model; and

WHEREAS, comprehensive developmental school counseling programs are considered an integral part of the educational process that enables all students to achieve success in school; and

WHEREAS, the Alabama School Counselor Association recognizes Huntsville Junior High School, Huntsville City School System, as a 2022 Alabama School Counseling Program of Distinction; and

WHEREAS, the American School Counselor Association (ASCA) recognizes Huntsville Junior High School, Huntsville City School System, as a 2022 Recognized ASCA Model Program (RAMP):

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby commend Sarah Spear, the school counselor of Huntsville Junior High School in the Huntsville City School System, on achieving the status of an Alabama School Counseling Program of Distinction in 2022.

Done this 12th day of October 2023

On motion by Dr. Yvette Richardson and seconded by Mrs. Tracie West, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following:

**RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF JENNIFER BROADHEAD, EDGEWOOD
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
HOMEWOOD CITY SCHOOL SYSTEM
AS ALABAMA'S 2023 HISTORY TEACHER OF THE YEAR**

WHEREAS, Jennifer Broadhead, a teacher at Edgewood Elementary School in the Homewood City School System, was selected as the Alabama recipient of the 2023 History Teacher of the Year Award; and

WHEREAS, the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, the nation's leading organization dedicated to K-12 American history education, sponsors the History Teacher of the Year Award to honor outstanding teachers of American history from all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Department of Defense, and U. S. territories; and

WHEREAS, through the state selection committee, Jennifer Broadhead was selected based upon her outstanding teaching abilities in making ancient times come alive for today's students allowing them to relive what our forefathers did many years ago, and for her dedicated efforts in attending professional development opportunities and sharing the information with not only her students but also with other history teachers in her school system; and

WHEREAS, as Alabama's 2023 History Teacher of the Year, Jennifer Broadhead receives a certificate and \$1,000 from the Gilder Lehrman Institute for American History, and Edgewood Elementary School receives an archive of primary historical materials; and

WHEREAS, Jennifer Broadhead will represent Alabama as the state finalist for the National History Teacher of the Year Award in a selection process to be held in New York City this fall:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby commend and congratulate Jennifer Broadhead upon the honor of being selected as Alabama’s 2023 History Teacher of the Year.

Done this 12th day of October 2023

On motion by Mrs. Stephanie Bell and seconded by Dr. Tonya Chestnut, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following:

**RESOLUTION HONORING MS. MARTHA “GINNY” DONAHOO
SELECTED AS THE
“BARBARA FANNIN MEMORIAL EMPLOYEE OF THE QUARTER”
OCTOBER-DECEMBER 2023**

WHEREAS, Ms. Martha “Ginny” Donahoo, IT Systems Technician in the Alabama State Department of Education Information Systems Section, exhibits a consistent and positive attitude, and

WHEREAS, Ms. Martha “Ginny” Donahoo has worked for the Alabama State Department of Education for over 18 years, and clearly believes in and has a passion for public education; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Martha “Ginny” Donahoo exhibits a level of knowledge and problem-solving skills, which is an enormous asset to our Department’s Information Systems processes; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Martha “Ginny” Donahoo provides technical support and works professionally with all stakeholders to ensure that the Department Information Systems service operates smoothly and reliably; and

WHEREAS, as much as her strong communication skills and expertise in her field characterize her effectiveness as an IT Technician, it is her interpersonal skills and caring spirit that draws colleagues to her and makes for a positive and supportive environment:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Department of Education and the Information Systems Section specifically, hereby express its gratitude to Ms. Martha “Ginny” Donahoo for her dedication and caring service; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby commend Ms. Martha “Ginny” Donahoo for her commitment to the Alabama State Department of Education and does hereby express its sincere congratulations.

Done this 12th day of October 2023

On motion by Dr. Wayne Reynolds and seconded by Mrs. Tracie West, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following:

**RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF OCTOBER 9-13, 2023,
AS “NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH WEEK” IN ALABAMA SCHOOLS**

WHEREAS, the Alabama State Board of Education and the Alabama State Department of Education has annually recognized the School Lunch Program has contributed to the health and educational development of Alabama’s children by making nutritious meals available in Grades K-12 public schools; and

WHEREAS, every October, the School Nutrition Association and the U.S. Department of Agriculture joined together to celebrate the National School Lunch Week which was established in 1962; and

WHEREAS, the National School Lunch Week 2023 theme is “Level Up with School Lunch,” which highlights the importance of a healthy school lunch in a child’s life and the impact it has inside and outside the classroom; and

WHEREAS, research has indicated that students who eat lunch have better attention and memory, and the quality of foods children eat impacts cognition, and poor nutrition is linked with absenteeism, health problems, hunger symptoms, and psychosocial problems; and

WHEREAS, scientifically based food and nutrition information contributes powerful education benefits to all elementary and secondary students; and

WHEREAS, the School Lunch Program served over 78,592,321 million lunch meals for the school year 2022-2023 to Alabama students:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby express its appreciation to school nutrition professionals who make the local School Lunch Program succeed in 1,462 school sites statewide; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education designates October 9-13, 2023, as "School Lunch Week" in Alabama public schools and encourage Alabama schools to promote National School Lunch Week.

Done this 12th day of October 2023

On motion by Mrs. Stephanie Bell and seconded by Dr. Tonya Chestnut, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following:

RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF OCTOBER 2023 AS DYSLEXIA AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS, dyslexia is defined as a language-based learning challenge that is neurological in origin and characterized by difficulties with accurate and/or fluent word recognition and by poor spelling and decoding abilities; and

WHEREAS, dyslexia impacts approximately one out of five children in Alabama schools; and

WHEREAS, through effective dyslexia screening, students with dyslexia can be identified as early as kindergarten, long before their learning challenges have resulted in learning disabilities; and

WHEREAS, early identification and intervention will equip many students with dyslexia for success in school and in life; and

WHEREAS, the Alabama State Board of Education has specifically addressed dyslexia within the *Alabama Administrative Code*; and

WHEREAS, the Alabama State Board of Education has committed itself to supporting Alabama schools and teachers with resources, materials, and professional development; and

WHEREAS, the Alabama State Board of Education has committed to the goal that every child will read on grade level:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education recognizes October 2023 as Dyslexia Awareness Month and encourages school systems to engage their schools, families, and communities in activities that create a culture of understanding, support, encouragement, and learning for students having dyslexia.

Done this 14th day of October 2023

On motion by Dr. Yvette Richardson and seconded by Mrs. Stephanie Bell, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following:

RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING OCTOBER 1-31, 2023, AS MANUFACTURING MONTH

WHEREAS, the Alabama State Department of Education has proclaimed October 1-31, 2023, as Manufacturing Month; and

WHEREAS, recognizing October 1-31, 2023, as Manufacturing Month in Alabama is an effective way to highlight the importance of manufacturing to the economy and draw attention to the many regarding high-skill jobs available in manufacturing; and

WHEREAS, Manufacturing Month is an opportunity to introduce state-of-the art manufacturing facilities to a new generation of students and future workers; and

WHEREAS, providing resources to support and strengthen STEM education, infrastructure, technology hubs, and economic opportunities for all people; and

WHEREAS, partnerships between manufacturing businesses and educational institutions at all levels are essential in preparing students for manufacturing careers today and in the future; and

WHEREAS, the state of Alabama is fortunate to be the home of many great manufacturing businesses, some of which are world leaders in their respective fields; and

WHEREAS, manufacturers in Alabama account for 12.5 billion dollars of wages which represents 10.7 percent of the total wages in the state; and

WHEREAS, manufacturing employs over 12.9 million American directly, and many more indirectly in the U.S.; and

WHEREAS, manufacturing companies employ 265,694 individuals in Alabama which signifies 12% percent of the workforce; and

WHEREAS, our community's manufacturing companies are vitally important to the prosperity of the state of Alabama; and

WHEREAS, during Manufacturing Month, we commit to strengthening and supporting the Alabama manufactures and hardworking manufacturing employees of today as well as the manufacturers and workers of the future; and

WHEREAS, the State Superintendent of Education recommends approval:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby proclaim October 1-31, 2023, as Manufacturing Month and encourages local boards of education, schools, business professionals, and local educational organizations to participate in this celebration through activities that demonstrate the importance of Alabama's education programs in preparing students for great career opportunities and academic excellence.

Done this 12th day of October 2023

On motion by Mrs. Marie Manning and seconded by Mrs. Stephanie Bell, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following:

**RESOLUTION ENDORSING ALABAMA SCHOOL BUS SAFETY WEEK
(October 16-20, 2023)**

WHEREAS, nearly 354,094 of Alabama's elementary and secondary students are transported to and from school each day of the school year; and

WHEREAS, the safety of these students is of utmost importance to all citizens of the state; and

WHEREAS, Alabama's school bus drivers and other transportation employees work diligently to ensure safe transportation for all of Alabama students:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby endorse October 16-20, 2023, as Alabama School Bus Safety Week and urges all Alabamians, particularly motorists, to be especially cautious where school buses and schoolchildren are involved:

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education calls on every citizen of Alabama to make every week a safe one for the students and school buses of our state.

Done this 12th day of October 2023

On motion by Dr. Tonya Chestnut and seconded by Mrs. Tracie West, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following:

**RESOLUTION TO NAME
ALABAMA'S 2023 SCIENCE OF READING
SPOTLIGHT SCHOOLS**

WHEREAS, the Alabama Reading Initiative recognizes schools that have demonstrated a strong commitment to Alabama's K-3 learners; and

WHEREAS, the schools have demonstrated a growth in their outcome data for proficiency and sufficiency that exceeds the growth of the state average; and

WHEREAS, the schools exemplify a commitment to student-centered coaching to move students in their data and teachers in their practice; and

WHEREAS, the science of reading is considered an integral part of the educational process to prevent and address reading difficulties for the purpose of enabling all students to read and tackle grade level texts; and

WHEREAS, the leadership in each school works alongside the school's teachers to grow in their knowledge by fully participating in Science of Reading training, such as Language Essentials for Teachers of Reading and Spelling (LETRS); and

WHEREAS, the schools demonstrate commitment to the components aligned with the Science of Reading as outlined in the *Alabama Literacy Act*, and the way in which to attain the knowledge about each component; and

WHEREAS, the Alabama Reading Initiative recognizes these schools as 2023 Science of Reading Spotlight Schools with the goal of utilizing their growth to support other schools and districts with a likeness to their own school:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby commend the professional accomplishment of the following schools who have been able to demonstrate through their outcome data and actions in the school building, that they are a Science of Reading Spotlight School in 2023.

BIBB COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM
Randolph Elementary School

JEFFERSON COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM
Lipscomb Elementary School

CALHOUN COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM
Alexandria Elementary School

LEE COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM
Beauregard Elementary School

COFFEE COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM
New Brockton Elementary School

MONTGOMERY COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM
Pintlala Elementary School

CRENSHAW COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM
All Schools

RUSSELLVILLE CITY SCHOOL SYSTEM
All Schools

CULLMAN COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM
Vinemont Elementary School

SATSUMA CITY SCHOOL SYSTEM
Robert E. Lee Elementary School

DEKALB COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM
Geraldine Elementary School

TUSCALOOSA CITY SCHOOL SYSTEM
Central Elementary School

FLORENCE CITY SCHOOL SYSTEM
Weeden Elementary School

UNIVERSITY CHARTER SCHOOL

Done this 12th day of October 2023

On motion by Dr. Yvette Richardson and seconded by Dr. Tonya Chestnut, the Board voted 8-0-1 to approve the following. Mrs. Stephanie Bell abstained.

FISCAL YEAR 2025 FOUNDATION PROGRAM APPROPRIATION REQUEST

On motion by Mrs. Marie Manning and seconded by Dr. Yvette Richardson, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following:

ADOPT AMENDED ALABAMA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE RULE 290-2-1-.01, PERTAINING TO ANNUAL APPORTIONMENT OF FOUNDATION PROGRAM FUNDS

On motion by Dr. Yvette Richardson and seconded by Mrs. Tracie West, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following:

ANNOUNCE INTENT TO ADOPT AMENDED ALABAMA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE CHAPTER 290-4-1, PERTAINING TO EDUCATION ACCOUNTABILITY

SELECTION OF THE 2023 ALABAMA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION DELEGATE FOR THE ALABAMA ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL BOARDS ANNUAL CONVENTION

On motion by Dr. Wayne Reynolds and seconded by Mrs. Belinda McRae, the Board voted unanimously for Dr. Yvette Richardson to serve as the Alabama State Board of Education Delegate during the Alabama Association of School Boards' Delegate Assembly that will be held on November 30, 2023, at the Sheraton Hotel in Birmingham, Alabama.

EXECUTIVE (INCLUDES LEGAL AND PUBLIC INFORMATION)

Dr. Mackey stated that there was no report necessary for the month of October.

STATE SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Mackey stated that the Board Members passed several resolutions today. One was the resolution recognizing Dyslexia Awareness Month and as always, we wear red in honor of dyslexia awareness. Dr. Mackey acknowledged three people from the Kiwanis Club, Keith McKendell, the state Kiwanis Governor; Dr. Dale Elliott; and Dr. Kristi Sayers. He recognized some parents, family members, and other guests who were present to honor dyslexia. Dr. Mackey stated that the Department has a couple of special reading programs. He introduced Mrs. Bonnie Short, Director of Alabama Reading Initiative, to give a brief overview on dyslexia. The overview took the place of a video that was unable to load due to technical issues. Mrs. Short also announced the 2023 Science of Reading Spotlight Schools and School Systems. Dr. Mackey asked everyone dressed in red, principals, counselors, and history teacher of the year to remain for portraits after the meeting.

Dr. Mackey stated that school lunch is recognized this week and school bus safety is going to be recognized next week. He said Alabama lost a 15-year-old student who was waiting at the bus stop at her home last week. Dr. Mackey stated that he would like to take this opportunity to publicly remind everyone that it does not matter what you are late for, it is not worth it to pass a school bus. It is extremely dangerous during that time of morning and afternoon when buses are loading or unloading students. He asked everyone to please keep the family of the student in your prayers while they lay their daughter to rest on this day. Dr. Mackey stated that he continues to hear about speeding in school zones.

There being no other business before the Board, on motion by Mrs. Stephanie Bell and seconded by Mrs. Marie Manning, Board Members voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 10:32 a.m. The next Alabama State Board of Education Meeting for Elementary and Secondary Education will be held on Thursday, November 9, 2023, at 10 a.m. in the Auditorium of the Gordon Persons Building followed by the Work Session.

Vice President

Secretary and Executive Officer